

# The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Monday, September 11, 1727.

From the Weekly Journal, Sept. 2.

**W**Hen those who brought about the Revolution had gained their Point, (which extraordinary Step was no doubt taken, from the Apprehensions of an Arbitrary Power in the Crown) what would they have said, if they had been told, That some of them might live to see the Day when there should be publick Advocates for Slavery in England? Yet we have the Mortification of, seeing such Vermin scattered thro' Town and Country like Ratsbane, Insects grown upon us from the Debts of the Nation, and who still will multiply, if Taxes and Employment increase: These are the Wretches who are for hanging up the rest of the Subjects in Rows, like Onions on a Rope; if they presume to dislike the Actions of the Persons they depend on, or take the Liberty, which is the Right of Englishmen, of speaking of publick Affairs.

But it is not in Discourse alone that these People are pleased to inculcate their Doctrine; some of them take the Pains to employ their Pens in the same honourable Cause: And one of our Weekly Papers is every now and then devoted to this Service; whose Author loves to give a Multitude of Words to very little Sense, for if we examine every Thing that is come from his *venal* Hand since he left off writing against the Church, all he has said might be comprehended in this short Sentence, *Be Slaves to the Higher Powers.*

His Abuse of the *Common Council* of this Great City, does them Honour; Censure from such a Writer, and in such a Cause, is Praise. 'Tis no Wonder, if a Flatterer do hate Men who have acted as if they thought themselves free.

If Power be derived from the People; if they are any way concerned in the Administration, or are supposed to have any Liberty of declaring their Sentiments upon what is done, or may be done in publick Affairs, the Treatment of that Body of Commoners was Insolence---- They consist of the most considerable Citizens, both for Substance and Understanding; they are annually chosen, and that without Bribery: And can any Man doubt that

they did not declare the Sense of every free and independent Citizen? Did this Address, which gives him so much Pain, come from a Rabble pick'd up from the Streets, who sign'd they knew not what, and what perhaps not one in ten of them ever read, or could read, there might be Room to condemn it. But if Addressees were design'd to let the Crown come at the true Sense of the People, then the Common Council did their Duty: But if they are Things merely of Form, and of no Meaning farther than a little abject Flattery upon Persons in the Administration, I must retract my Defence of my Fellow Citizens, and own them wrong.

How fully qualified must a Writer of so good Intentions be to direct his Countrymen in the Choice of Representatives? And what a worthy Assembly would a House of Commons make, should a Majority of such Men be returned as he'd point out?

As the horrid Corruption which is so openly practised in our present Elections, makes every thinking Man tremble for the Consequences; one would think it impossible for a Writer to address himself to our Electors, without endeavouring to inspire them with a Horror 'gainst such Practices: But this candid Author is pleased to be *silent* on that Head; a plain Proof that he approves them, and that he is engaged on that Side of the Dispute. All that he recommends is, Not to chuse such People as will stir up Discords among the Populace, by raising Cries against the Court.

He might have gone a little farther, and told us, what have been the Consequences in Times past of having such Parliaments: He might have told us, that it was Men of such turbulent Spirits that he warns us against, that in the Time of Edward II. raised Clamours against the Court; a discontented Party, who would not suffer the Tyranny and Oppression of *Pierce Gaviston*, nor that of the two *Spencers*, but pursued them to the Gallows, and went so far as to oblige the King himself to *Resign* his Crown to his Son, for subjecting his Power and Authority to these Ministers of State, and suffering them to use his Name to colour and countenance their Villainies,

lunies, and attempting to govern, as the Historian expresses it, *in an arbitrary Way*.

It was the same Spirit that first Procured the *Magna Charta*, and afterwards caused it to be so often confirmed: It was this Spirit which heretofore has often stirred up our Parliament, to call the Ministers to an Account for publick Money, and to punish them when found delinquent. It was this Spirit which for many Ages made it a Custom for our Parliaments to insist for a Redress of Grievances, whether occasioned by the over-bearing or Avarice of the Ministers, before they would pass a Money Bill. It was this Spirit, that in the Reign of King James the First, occasioned many Heats in both Houses, and induced them to prevail on that King to withdraw the Grants and Patents he made to his Courtiers, to fill their Pockets at the Expence of the People: And it was the same Spirit that passed the *Habeas Corpus* Act, which hinders a Man in Power from imprisoning the meanest Subject to gratify his own Spleen and Malice.

But how should it be otherwise, for these were a rude Race of Men, who never gave an Elector a Shilling for his Voice; and tho' they were told by the Courtiers, that passing such Laws was an Affront to the Crown, because it shewed in them a Mistrust of its Power, they were not to be put off, but would go on, forsooth, only because it was for the Good of Posterity; it being a Maxim with them to let the Crown have as much Power of doing good as it would, but very little of doing Harm. Nay that Parliament which passed the *Habeas Corpus* Act, were so extremely troublesome that they made a scrutiny among their own Members, to find out if there were not some Court Pensioners among them; and discovered by the Means of a Person in Trust with the King, that there were Eighteen; therefore it cannot be thought strange that the Bill should pass: For what could so small a Number as Eighteen, rightly disposed to act as they were bid, do against upwards of four hundred ungovernable Members, who were for sowing Discord, and raising a Cry against the Court?

Therefore, Countreymen, if you would not have any more such Proceedings, you should not chuse such Members. The best Rule I can give for knowing them by is; They are commonly such as Live amongst you, upon their own Estates independent of the Court, and are called honest Gentlemen of the Country. On the contrary you must return

those who give Money to be elected, chuse Courtiers, Pensioners, Civil and Military Officers, Brokers, Stockjobbers, South Sea Directors and Sharpers; Men who will make it their private Interest, to act in a good Intelligence with the Ministers, such as will not squabble with a Court about the Liberty of a Mob, that is, in their Language the People; such as will not make a Route about publick Money embezzled or misapplied, or Censure dishonourable Treaties; but vote every Thing just and Honourable, without knowing a Word of the Matter. Such, in Fine, as would only meet to be the Tax-Gatherers of the Court, while we, in the mean Time, should be the *Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water* under them.

*From the Evening Post, Sept. 2.*

*Paris, Sept. 3.* All Foreign Soldiers, incorporate in French Regiments, have been ordered to withdraw. And 'tis talked the like Orders will be given to the Natives of this Kingdom who are in the Service of Foreign Princes.

*From the Daily Journal, Sept. 2.*

*Stockholm, Aug. 20.* The Envoy of Prussia is returned to Berlin. The four Commissioners who signed the Act of Accession of this Crown to the Treaty of Hanover, have received each a Present of 10,000 Dollars from the Kings of G. Britain and France.

*From the St. James's Evening Post, Sept. 2.*

*Members chosen for the ensuing Parliament.*

N. B. Those marked thus \* were not in the last Parliament.

Surrey, Arthur Onslow, Thomas Scawen Esq; Derby County, Sir Nathaniel Curzon, Bart. Godfrey Clarke, Esq; Norwich, Walter Bacon, Robert Briffle, Esq; Lincoln City, Sir John Monson \* Hall, Esq; Carlisle, \* Col. Howard, \* Baron Hilton. Worcester County, Sir Thomas Littleton, Bart. \* Sir Herbert Perot Packington, Bart. Berks, Sir John Stonchouse, Robert Packer, Esq; Dunblod \* Hon. John King, \* Arthur Freeman, Esq; Wenlock, Samuel Edwards, John Sambrooke, Esq; Rutland, Daniel Lord Finch, \* Hon. John Noel, Esq; Leicester County, Lord William Manners, \* Sir Colbery Noel, Bart, Lestwithiel. \* Daniel Trelawney, \* --- Bridges, Esq;

*Since our last arrived a Dutch and a French Mail. Wye*

Wye's Letter, verbatim, London, Sept. 5.

THE Accession of Sweden to the Treaty of Hanover, was of such Importancy towards procuring the Peace in the North, that nothing was wanting which might accomplish so great a Work. We are told by Letters from Stockhlof of the 20th inst, That the 4 Commissioners who signed the above-mentioned Accession, have each received a Present of 10,000 Rix Dollars.

The same Endeavours will, 'tis hoped, have the like good Effect in other Courts, for establishing the General Peace, tho' as yet we cannot learn, That the King of Spain has been prevail'd upon to ratify the Preliminaries.

As to the Offend Company we are told, that notwithstanding their Trade is to be suspended according to the Preliminaries for seven Years, they are building a Ship there of 700 Tons, which will be ready to sail in November.

They write from Portsmouth, that Sir George Walton's Squadron was victualling there for six Months, being speedily to depart for the Mediterranean.

On Thursday last came on the Election for the County of Bedford, and was carried for Sir Rowland Alston, and Pattee Bing Esq; in Opposition to Sir John Chester, and Sir Humphrey Moinoux, who, 'tis said had the Duke of Bedford's Interest.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend to be Custos Rotulorum for the County of Chester, the Lord Viscount Harbrough for the County of Rutland.

At the Election for the County of Bedford, the Candidates on both Sides took up all the publick Houses in the Town, and caused to be wrote on the Signs these Words, *Here are free Quarters*, and one Shilling being allowed for each Person's eating and Drinking, some compute that 14 or 15,000 Persons were payed for, tho' the Freeholders present did not exceed the following Number, which was that of the Poll, viz. Sir Rowland Alstone, 1329; the Hon. Pattee Byng, Esq; 1343; Sir John Chester, 1030; Sir Humphrey Monoux, 1029.

There was this Day a Court of Aldermen, when the Lord Mayor propos'd to fix a Time for the Election of a Chamberlain for this City; but it being the Opinion of the Court, That the appointing it for a short Time would interfere with the

Election of Members of Parliament for the City, it was deferred till after the Election.

The Court has been so successful in the Affair of Elections, that some who pretend to distinguish nicely, compute the Majority on their Side to be Seven to One.

The Jamaica Fleet is arrived, but, as far as we can learn, bring no News of Admiral Wager.

The following Ships of War, which are designed for Service Abroad, viz. *Essex, Revenge, Medway, Chatham*, and *Plymouth*, arriv'd Yesterday in the Downs from the Nore.

According to Advices by the Holland Mail, the Pretender is still at Avignon; That Councils were daily held at the Court of Madrid touching the Preliminaries, but the Result thereof was kept secret. Mean time 'tis said, that all the Spanish Officers were suddenly to depart for Cadix.

From the Evening Post, Sept. 5.

*Libau, Aug. 23.* Here is Advice, that one of the Princes of Hesse-Homburg is to be made Duke of Courland and Livonia, by the Assistance of the Court of Russia.

*Brussels, Sept. 8.* The Scheme for setting up the Company at Newport for the Herring Fisheery, has been approved at Court. The Directors of the Offend Company have added 3 Yachts to the 9 Ships which are allowed to return freely from the East Indies, whereof a List has been given to the Allies of Hanover, pursuant to the Articles of Pacification.

*Vienna, Aug. 30.* 'Tis assured that the Remainder of the Subsidy promised by the King of Spain will be remitted hither within six Weeks; and that the Differences between the Courts of Spain and Great Britain, concerning the raising the Siege of Gibraltar will be compos'd by the Mediation of his Imperial Majesty.

*Hague, Sept. 7.* Their High Mightinesses have agreed to the Congress being held at Cambray.

*London, Sept. 5.* South Sea Stock 110, &c.

From the St. James's Evening Post, Sept. 5.

*Hague, Sept. 12.* We hear from Avignon, that the Pretender is resolv'd to live there for some Months, if possible.

Dum





**Dumbarton, Sept. 9.** The Election for a Representative in Parliament for the District of Glasgow, &c. was performed here in the following Manner. The Town being filled with Numbers of Highlanders, arm'd with Broad Swords and Cudgels, the Sheriff issued an Order for them to remove; but it was not obeyed. The Electors coming to enter the Town-house, found Provost Smollet there with a Parcel of Fellows arm'd as above, both within and about the House; upon which they requir'd that they should be turn'd out; which he refusing, they *Protested* for Freedom of Election: And the said Provost likewise stopping Mr. Hutchison (who had been chosen Clerk to the Election, and who likewise had the Writ of Parliament) that he should not go in with the Electors, they again *Protested*, and proceeded to the Election at the Threshold of the Town-house, the Doors being shut by those within; Three Electors voting unanimously for John Blackwood, Esq; Merchant in London, for their Representative. The Electors were, Dean of Guild Peady, for Glasgow; Baillie Colquhoun, for Dumbarton, and Baillie Pinkerton, for Rutherglen. Blythwood, for Renfrew, soon left Provost Smollet alone with his Clerk, but voted for no Body.

**P. S.** Upon the News thereof arriving at Glasgow, there were publick Rejoicings, by ringing of Bells, and other Demonstrations of Joy.

**Stirling, Sept. 9.** This Day came on the Election for a Member of Parliament for the Burghs of Stirling, Inverkeithing, Dumfermling, Colrofs and Queensferry; and Henry Cunningham, Esq; Commissary General for Scotland, was unanimously Elected.

**Edinburgh, Sept. 11.** His Grace the Duke of Montrose is arrived here since our last; as is the Right Hon. the Earl of Sutherland, from on board one of his Majesty's Vatches.

On Friday last his Excellency Lt. General Wade

reviewed Maj. Gen. Grove's Regiment of Foot at their Camp in Leith Links. After the Exercise was over (during which some of their Pieces split, and wounded several of the Men) his Excellency intimate a Pardon to 6 or 7 Deserters. Next Day his Excellency went hence for London.

On Saturday Night last a Fire broke out at the West-port; and Yesterday Morning another broke out in North Leith; but neither of them did any considerable Damage.

*Glasgow, Sept. 6.*

Meal, from L. 6, 13, 04. to 07, 12, 00.

Bear, from L. 5, 10, 00. to 07, 00 00.

## A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

[5] There is to be exposed to publick voluntar Roup, upon the Twenty-seventh Day of September Inst. at Cowpar of Angus, the GREAT LODGING, Brewhouse, Malt-barns, and hail Office-houses, Yards, Kilns and Cobles, with several other Houses and Yards, and some Crofts and Acres of Field-Land lying in and about the Town of Cowpar; in all, about 600 Merks of yearly Rent, which formerly belonged to the deceased Mr. John Ogilvie, late Baillie of Cowpar. The Rental, Progress and Conditions of Sale, to be seen in the Hands of Mr. Alexander Airth Schoolmaster of Cowpar of Angus. The Lodging and Office-houses are very fit for a Change-keeper, and ly on the Road frae Perth to the North.

[6] Stolen from James Burden in Lerbor Mill in the Parish of Lerbor, two Horses; the one a large white Horse with some blew Spots; and the other a Galloway of the same Colour, but wanting the Mane. Any Person that can give Notice to the Author of this Paper, or to James Livingston Postmaster in Falkirk, shall be fully satisfied for their Pains and no Questions ask't.

[7] That a second Cargo of Royal cured Bush Herrings full hoop, belonging to the Leith Herring-Fishing Copartners, are to be exposed to Sale at Robert Muirs House in Leith, upon Friday next being the 15th Day of September Inst. at three of the Clock in the Afternoon. The Articles of the Roup are to be seen in the Hands of John Bell Coupar in Leith, who is just Porting and Re-packing the Herrings, and will show them to any who intends to buy them.

**EDINBURGH:** Printed for Mr. William Rolland, by Mr. Thomas Ruddiman. Sold at the Printing-house; and at Mr. Alex. Symmers's Shop in the Parliament-Close. At both which Places Advertisements and Subscriptions are taken in.

**N. B.** The Printing-house is now removed from *Morocco's Close* in the Lawn-market, to the Back-part of the Leith Exchange. The Entry to the Printing-house is down the first Stairs from the South-side of the Parliament Close, leading to the Meak-market.

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